

Meeting Note – EPA/DTSC Meeting – May 8, 2015

- Nelline Kowbel highlighted elements of the DTSC’s 2-year Permitting Enhancement Program and the progress made to date. Much of the program’s current focus is developing SOPs and checklists.
- Muzhda Ferouz discussed CA-government wide Lean-Six Sigma training program and her project (*I cannot remember what it is and I do not have notes*)
- Barbara and Tom discussed EPA oversight and assistance including using the additional funds in the DTSC grant this year to address permitting needs, more discussion on this at May 28th meeting.
- Group discussed partnering with DTSC on permitting plans, GPRA requirements, and high profile sites (e.g., Phibro Tech; Kettleman; Clean Harbors Buttonwillow & Westmorland) with early involvement by EPA (e.g., EPA going with DTSC on initial site visits).
- Rizgar Ghazi discussed status and outlook for processing the 24 permits in the backlog (“continued permits”)
 - 2014/2015 Status Update
 - 8 2-year positions have been filled.
 - goal is 8 permits
 - as of Feb 2015, 4 permits issued (includes 2 new facilities not in backlog)
 - 7 draft permits publicly noticed by May 2015 with final decisions by June 2015
 - Outlook for 2015/2016
 - Goal is 9 permits, project schedules for all continued permits have been established
 - Facilities that are likely to require special attention:
 - Phi-Bro
 - Clean Harbors - Westmorland
 - A large number of permits (operational & post-closure) are expiring in the next few years with the peak in 2017.
- Lori Koch discussed the process for issuing the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory Permit to illustrate how long the permitting process can take (6 years) especially with multiple rounds of NODs & late involvement by CEQA & Enforcement in permit review.
- Rizgar discussed DTSC’s activities on Exide (*I don’t have any notes on this*).
- Frances discussed the status of the put piles at Clean Harbor’s Buttonwillow: EPA expects to start formal negotiations with CH on enforcement action in June; CH had not approached us to discuss a potential no migration variance.
 - DTSC stated that their policy was not to move forward with permitting decisions when there are outstanding enforcement actions.

- Rizgar discussed DTSC's Landfill Reduction initiative (goal to cut in half hazardous wastes going to CA's landfills by 2025). Money/2 positions have been requested and next steps are developing an outreach strategy, formation of advisory group, and data collection.
- Follow Up:
 - Establish routine communications
 - Monthly call between Rizgar and Tom